

DRINK

DRiNK

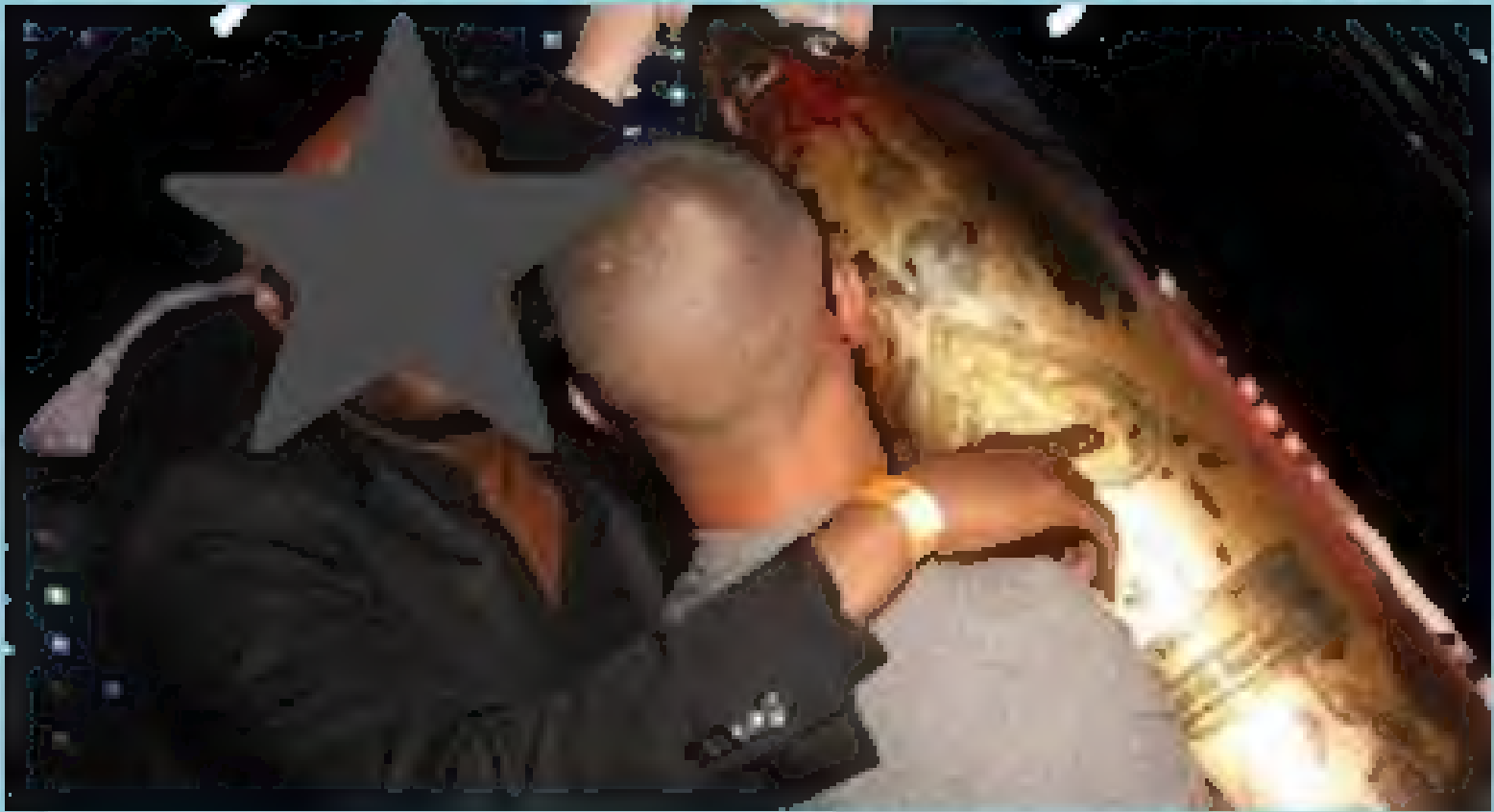
DRINK

Notes from the APOCRYPHA (1611 KJV)

M. Loe

**What Does  
the  
Apocryphal  
Book of  
1<sup>st</sup> Esdras  
Say About  
Alcohol?**





**FIRST,  
WHAT IS  
ALCOHOL?**

**Generally speaking,  
any ethanol-  
containing  
intoxicating  
beverage is  
considered to be  
alcohol. Beer, wine,  
liquor, wine coolers,  
liqueur, and also  
moonshine are the  
basics of alcohol.**

**Any alcohol has the  
potential to be  
dangerous.**

**“The Strength of Wine”  
(The Power of Alcohol)**

**1 ESDRAS**

**3:17-24**

17

...Then began the first,  
who had spoken of the  
strength of wine;

18

And he said thus, O ye  
men, how exceeding  
strong is wine! it  
causeth all men to err  
that drink it:

19

It maketh the mind of  
the king and of the

**fatherless child to be  
all one; of the  
bondman and of the  
freeman, of the poor  
man and of the rich:**

**20**

**It turneth also every  
thought into jollity and  
mirth, so that a man  
remembereth neither  
sorrow nor debt:**

**21**

**And it maketh every**

heart rich, so that a  
man remembereth  
neither king nor  
governor; and it  
maketh to speak all  
things by talents:

22

And when they are in  
their cups, they forget  
their love both to  
friends and brethren,  
and a little after draw  
out swords:



23

But when they are  
from the wine, they  
remember not what  
they have done.

24

O ye men, is not wine  
the strongest, that  
enforceth to do thus?  
And when he had so  
spoken, he held his  
peace.

**So,  
according to the  
1611's first book  
of Esdras,  
what is wrong  
with the  
consumption  
of alcohol?**

- It leads people who drink it to make mistakes and to do wrong things.

(Verse 18)

it causeth all men to  
err that drink it

Throughout the  
years, there have  
been reports of

**various workers  
who were  
responsible for  
providing public  
transportation  
having caused  
serious accidents  
and deaths simply  
because they were  
“under the  
influence of  
alcohol”.**

**These accidents included auto and airplane crashes, sunken ships, and even bus collisions. Drivers of these, and other vehicles, made serious mistakes because their vision, reaction times, and**

**judgment was  
impaired. The  
alcohol caused  
them to err—to do  
the wrong thing.  
In some cases, it  
cost their lives or  
the lives of their  
passengers or of  
others who  
happened to be  
nearby.**

- It breaks down distinctions in status and role.

(Verse 19)

It maketh the mind of  
the king and of the  
fatherless child to be  
all one; of the  
bondman and of the  
freeman, of the poor  
man and of the rich:

It may seem to be

**a good thing that  
everyone could be  
equal. The  
fatherless child  
could be as  
important as the  
king and the  
enslaved or poor  
could be equal in  
care and  
treatment to the  
free or rich**



**person. Were that  
so, alcohol would  
be a very helpful  
beverage. Of  
course it's not and  
that's not what the  
verse is saying. To  
the contrary, it's  
saying that "wine"  
(any alcohol)  
causes people who  
SHOULD be in**

**positions of high  
character,  
wisdom, honor,  
and authority to  
behave as if they  
were of a very low  
position. Likewise,  
the drink makes  
those who actually  
are in low  
situations, such as  
poverty, to**

**become arrogant  
and to think too  
highly of  
themselves. It's  
similar to saying,  
"That court judge  
is crawling all over  
the ground,  
laughing and  
vomiting while  
that beggar is  
demanding**

**expensive jewelry,  
high-fashion  
clothes, and the  
most costly  
meals!” Positions  
and situations  
become clouded as  
a result of  
drinking alcohol.  
Sometimes, even a  
small amount  
changes behavior.**

- It makes everything seem so insignificant, so funny, and so deliriously fun that drinkers forget sorrows, debts, and respect. Plus, they'll reveal things for money.

(Verses 20, 21)

It turneth also every thought into jollity and

mirth, so that a man  
remembereth neither  
sorrow nor debt: And it  
maketh every heart rich,  
so that a man  
remembereth neither king  
nor governor; and it  
maketh to speak all things  
by talents:

**Alcohol causes people  
to act so foolishly.  
Often, everything  
becomes a joke and**

**nothing is serious or important to them at the time. They could be losing their jobs or homes and, rather than praying, thinking, or planning their next move, they allow booze to overshadow their realities. Also, with lowered inhibitions,**

**they'll run their  
mouths and reveal  
information,  
according to this  
passage, for pay.  
Actually, they'll do  
the same free too. Not  
all, but many  
drinkers become as  
chatter boxes and  
wanna'-be  
philosophers.**



- It destroys family and friend relationships and prompts fights. Then it causes amnesia of all its destruction.

*(Verses 22, 23)*

And when they are in their cups, they forget their love both to friends and brethren, and a little after draw out swords: But when they are from the

**wine, they remember not  
what they have done.**

**Mess! It creates the  
kind of messes which  
are so messy that  
relationships are  
permanently  
destroyed. When the  
chaos is all over, the  
drinker often doesn't  
even remember what  
happened.**

## **Additional Issues with Alcohol:**

- **Alcohol causes poor health and even death of users and victims of users.**
- **Alcoholic beverages cost money which could used to help rather than to hurt.**

- **"Drinking" often becomes a difficult addiction to manage.**

- **Alcohol is strongly encouraged in certain neighborhoods, but the revenue from it very rarely goes into the same communities.**



# For Thought:



**Have you known  
anyone whose health  
suffered as a result of  
drinking alcohol?**

## **2**

**Have you ever found  
yourself drinking,  
becoming sick from it  
(a condition known as  
a hangover) and  
promising (yourself,  
friends, or even God)  
that you would not**

**ever drink again, but  
did drink at some  
later time?**

# 3

**What are biblical  
passages sometimes  
used to justify  
consumption of  
alcohol?**



# **For The Record:**

**Drinking alcohol, as with most anything else, is a personal choice for adults.**

**The presented scriptural passage provides reasons to consider one's perspective on drinking.**